

**To:** Manzanilla, Enrique[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov]; Minor, Dustin[Minor.Dustin@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Rongone, Marie[Rongone.Marie@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wirschafter, Joshua  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 8:31:28 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Congressman Paul Gosar Inquiry on Gold King Mine EPA Claims Issue in Press

*Attorney Client Privileged*

Enrique,

# Attorney Client/Ex. 5

**From:** Manzanilla, Enrique  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:57 PM  
**To:** Minor, Dustin  
**Cc:** Quast, Sylvia; Guria, Peter; Yogi, David; Allen, HarryL; Maier, Brent; Wirschafter, Joshua  
**Subject:** Fw: Congressman Paul Gosar Inquiry on Gold King Mine EPA Claims Issue in Press

# Attorney Client/Ex. 5

---

**From:** Levine, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:11 PM  
**To:** Maier, Brent; Vaught, Laura; Quast, Sylvia; Manzanilla, Enrique; Yogi, David; Snyder, Raquel; Allen, HarryL; Harris-Bishop, Rusty; Robberson, Bill  
**Cc:** Higuchi, Dean; Keener, Bill; Zito, Kelly  
**Subject:** RE: Congressman Paul Gosar Inquiry on Gold King Mine EPA Claims Issue in Press

Brent,

We have several inquiries about the claims process, so let's coordinate on this. I am waiting for response from HQ.

---

*Carolyn Levine*

*Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations*

*U.S. EPA*

*(202) 564-1859*

*[levine.carolyn@epa.gov](mailto:levine.carolyn@epa.gov)*

**From:** Maier, Brent

**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:02 PM

**To:** Vaught, Laura; Quast, Sylvia; Manzanilla, Enrique; Yogi, David; Snyder, Raquel; Levine, Carolyn; Allen, HarryL; Harris-Bishop, Rusty; Robberson, Bill

**Cc:** Higuchi, Dean; Keener, Bill; Zito, Kelly

**Subject:** Congressman Paul Gosar Inquiry on Gold King Mine EPA Claims Issue in Press

**Importance:** High

Congressman Paul Gosar's office is asking for a response from me to the claims made in the links provided. Do we have a response that I can share back with the Congressman's office who is being asked for a comment on this issue? I would like to respond back to the Congressman's office as soon as possible. Thanks.

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3)

San Francisco, CA 94105

Ph: 415.947.4256

**From:** Small, Jeff [<mailto:Jeff.Small@mail.house.gov>]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 11:44 AM

**To:** Maier, Brent

**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Farmington, NM and Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

Hey Brent,

Good talking to you.

The Congressman would like a response to this claim if possible as we are now getting press inquiries:

“The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is offering immediate reimbursements for damages from the Gold King Mine water contamination in exchange for waiving rights for future claims.”  
<http://www.navajo-nsn.gov/News%20Releases/OPVP/2015/aug/Operation%20To%20Litso.pdf>

There is already a quote from Chairman Bishop on this matter in this Washington Times Article.  
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/aug/12/indians-say-epa-trying-swindle-them-mine-spill/>

Here's another article I found:

<http://www.hnngn.com/articles/118861/20150812/navajo-nation-epa-trying-cheat-over-mine-spill-plans-sue.htm>

Our press guy also just informed me when I got off the phone that we now also have an inquiry from a reporter asking for a comment from the Congressman.

Obviously, we would like to have the facts before responding to the reporter.

Please let me know as soon as you can what the facts are if you would.

Thanks again for taking my call.

Sincerely,

**Jeff Small**

Legislative Director

Congressman Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.

Arizona's 4th District

504 Cannon HOB | Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2315 main  
[jeff.small@mail.house.gov](mailto:jeff.small@mail.house.gov)